

IN THE CLAIMS:

Set forth below in ascending order, with status identifiers, is a complete listing of all claims currently under examination. Please cancel claims 1-5 and 11-25 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. Changes to any amended claims are indicated by strikethrough and underlining. This listing also reflects any cancellation and/or addition of claims.

1-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended)

An apparatus, comprising:

a deformable member having a first end, a second end, and an intermediate portion; and
a tendon configured to displace the first end of the deformable member relative to the second end in response to a signal, the intermediate portion of the deformable member configured to provide a haptic sensation to an underside of a hand ~~associated with displacement of the first end of the deformable member.~~

7. (Previously presented)

The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the deformable member is a leaf spring.

8. (Previously presented)

The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the tendon passes through a guide member fixed to one of the first end and the second end of the deformable member.

9. (Previously presented)

The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the deformable member is configured to provide a controllable kinesthetic force.

10. (Previously presented)

The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the deformable member is configured to provide a tactile sensation.

11-25. (Canceled)

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26. (Currently amended) An apparatus, comprising:
an actuator; and
a forcing mechanism coupled to the actuator, the forcing mechanism positionable on a support surface defining a plane, the forcing mechanism including:
a contact surface configured to provide a haptic sensation to an underside of a hand; and
means for moving the contact surface in a direction having at least one component outside of the plane defined by the support surface in response to the actuator.
27. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the contact surface is attached to a flexible member.
28. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the means for moving includes a tendon attached to an extremity of the contact surface.
29. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the means for moving includes a piston.
30. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the means for moving includes a threaded rod.
31. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the means for moving includes a cam.
32. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the means for moving includes a telescoping member.
33. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the means for moving includes an inflatable member.

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34. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the contact surface includes a multi-point contact surface.

35. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 26, further comprising:
means for securing the contact surface to an object able to receive the feedback force.

36. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the contact surface includes a contact surface defining an opening to at least partially enclose an object able to receive the feedback force.

37. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the means for moving includes a plurality of finger forcing mechanisms.

38. (Previously presented) A method, comprising:
receiving from a computer a signal associated with a user interface associated with the computer;

moving a contact surface of a forcing mechanism in a direction having at least one component outside the plane of a support surface configured to support the forcing mechanism, the moving being associated with the received signal, the contact surface of the forcing mechanism being configured to provide a haptic sensation to an underside of a hand; and

transmitting information to the computer from the forcing mechanism regarding the moving of the contact surface of the forcing mechanism.

39. (Previously presented) The method of claim 38, wherein the receiving includes receiving a signal from the computer associated with a placement of an icon within the user interface.

40. (Previously presented) The method of claim 38, wherein the moving is further based on calculations performed by the computer in response to the information transmitted to the computer.

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